

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of utilizing and modifying a grammar in a semantic parser, the method comprising:

identifying a set of surface semantic non-terminals from user input using a context-free grammar;
using a semantic description language grammar that describes relationships between semantic non-terminals to identify a semantic parse based in part on the identified semantic non-terminals;
receiving an instruction to change the semantic description language grammar; and
changing the semantic description language grammar based on the instruction by deleting a non-terminal through steps comprising:

determining that the non-terminal is defined at least in part by a child semantic entity that does not define another non-terminal in the semantic description language grammar; and

deleting the child semantic entity based on the determination.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein deleting a non-terminal comprises:

determining that the non-terminal is defined at least in part by a child surface semantic non-terminal in the context free grammar that does not define another non-terminal in the semantic description language grammar; and

deleting the child surface semantic non-terminal from the context-free grammar based on the determination.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein deleting the child surface semantic non-terminal comprises:

determining if the child surface semantic non-terminal is defined by a rule that does not define another child surface semantic non-terminal; and deleting the rule based on the determination.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

receiving an instruction to change a non-terminal in a semantic description language grammar used in semantic parsing of text;

accessing a stored grammar formed through the combination of a context-free grammar that links text to semantic non-terminals and athe semantic description language grammar that links semantic non-terminals to each other; and

changing the stored grammar based on the received instruction by changing a non-terminal in the semantic description language grammar and a non-terminal in the context-free grammar.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim ~~14~~11 wherein receiving an instruction comprises receiving an instruction to delete a non-terminal from the semantic description language and wherein changing the stored grammar comprises deleting the non-terminal from the semantic description language and a non-terminal from the context-free grammar based on the instruction.

16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein changing the stored grammar comprises deleting a single rule associated with a non-terminal in the context-free grammar.

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein changing the stored grammar comprises inserting a single rule for a non-terminal in the context-free grammar.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)